Training for SC/ST engineers

4127. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to' state:

(a) whether the indifference of States to supplement the efforts of software giant Infosys, to train SC/ST engineers in improving their employability in corporate world, has forced the Central Government to intervene with its financial support;

(b) whether the Ministry has decided to part-finance the programmes and has informed Infosys that they would pay grant-in-aid of Rs. 45,000/ per candidate for training and Rs. 1,500/- as monthly stipend to engineers, while the company would pay the remaining cost for training and living expenses;

(c) how many States have not implmented the quota in private sector; and

(d) to what extent Government has agreed to provide help to other sectors also?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) to (d) Infosys Technologies Ltd. had forwarded to the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment in February, 2008, a proposal of Institute of Electronic Governance, Hyderabad. The Ministry has approved the proposal forwarded by Infosys for providing coaching/training to SC students for finishing job courses under the Central Sector Scheme of Free Coaching for SC & OBC students. The expenses on the programme have to be met on public private partnership basis. The Government has agreed to provide an amount of Rs. 45,000/- per candidate and stipend @ Rs. 750/- per local student per month and Rs. 1500/- per outstation student per month.

The Ministry does not have State specific information about implementation of quota in private sector.

Reservation quota for OBCs in Tripura

4128. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that OBCs in Tripura cannot enjoy reservation in State Government services as the combined reservation quota for Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes has reached almost fifty per cent;

(b) whether there is any representation from the State to bring necessary amendment in the constitution, to cross the bar of 50 per cent limit of reservation in its case, as a special case, due to the extra ordinary circumstances; and

(c) the steps proposed by Government to make a break-through, by removing legal barriers for which the OBCs of the State cannot enjoy reservation in the State services, on account of the resasons beyond the jurisdiction of the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) Reservation in posts and services under the State Government being a subject matter of the State, the policy in this regard is formulated by the concerned State Government.

(b) No such proposal has been received from the Government of Tripura.

(c) Does not arise in view of reply to part (b) above.

Drug addiction among youths in Punjab

4129. SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that there has been an alarming rise in drug addiction amongst youth in Punjab, specially in the border areas;

(b) whether any schemes are being proposed by the Central Government to assist the State Government to deal with this menace by opening drug de-addiction centres in the seriously affected districts; and

(c) whether Government is seeking any help from Governments of Afghanistan and Pakistan to check infiltration of drugs into the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) and (b) There is no definite evidence to suggest alarming rise in drug addiction. However, the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has been implementing the Scheme for Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance (Abuse) through voluntary organizations working in this field in coordination with the State Governments/UT Administration for identification, counseling, treatment and rehabilitation of the drug addicts by opening de-addiction centres in the country.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Setting up of de-addiction centres

†4130. MS. SUSHILATIRIYA:
SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of de-addiction centres functioning in the country, at present;

(b) whether it is a fact that funds are being made available to the States by the Central Government, for setting up of de-addication centres; and

(c) if so, the amount allocated to the Governments of Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Orissa, respectively, for establishment and running of such centres, during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) The details of the de-addiction centres supported by the Ministry in 2007-08 is given in the Statement *(See* below).

(b) and (c) No, Sir. Funds are made available to the NGOs for setting up and running de-addiction centres subject to fulfilment of norms of the Scheme for Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance (Drugs) Abuse and the guidelines issued by the Ministry from time to time.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.